

REMARKS

The following Restriction Requirement has been issued in connection with the above-referenced application:

- I. Claims 275 and 283-288 drawn to a multimeric composition comprising two elements comprising a protein and polymer and
- II. Claims 289-290, drawn to a process for delivering a multimeric complex to a subject.

It is further noted that if Group I is elected, the following species election needs to be made: a single protein from an antibody, a lymphokine, a cytokine, a hormone, a cellular matrix protein, a receptor binding protein, and a growth factor and a single binding matrix from polypeptide, polynucleotide and polysaccharide.

Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement. However, in order to be completely responsive, Applicants elect Group I with traverse and the species "a receptor binding protein" with respect to "a single protein" (first element) and a polynucleotide with respect to the binding matrix. Claims 275, 284, 285 and 291-295 read on the elected species. As noted in the Restriction Requirement, Applicants assert that once there is allowable subject matter in the claims of Group I, the claims of Group II are subject to rejoinder, since they depend from claim 275. Furthermore, Applicants also note that on allowance of the generic claim, Applicants will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species.

Applicants further note that claim 275 has been amended so that the first element recites just three species, an antibody, a receptor binding protein and a cellular matrix protein. It is Applicants view that it would not involve an undue burden to search three species and respectfully request reconsideration of this Restriction Requirement.

Applicants wish to respectfully point out that new claims 291-295 have been added. In view of these new claims, claims 284-285 have been amended so that they now depend from claims 291 and 294 respectively.

In view of the above remarks and amendments, Applicants assert that the pending claims are now in condition for further examination. An early action to that end is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (914) 712-0093 if she has any questions about this response or this application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

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